

THE following Return of Births, Deaths, and Marriages registered in South Australia, during the year ended December, 1866-71, is published for general information.

Chief Secretary's Office, Adelaide, March 6, 1872.

HENRY AYERS, Chief Secretary.

Return of Births and Deaths registered in South Australia, in the Year ended December 31, 1866-71.

Years	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.	Average of Five Years.	1871.						
Population, January 1st	156,605	169,866	172,860	176,298	181,146		183,703						
Births	6,782	7,041	7,247	6,976	7,021	7,013	7,082						
Rate per cent.....	4.331	4.147	4.194	3.957	3.877	—	3.855						
Deaths—							All Ages.	Under 20 Years.	20 and under 40.	40 and under 60.	60 and under 80.	80 and upwards.	Not stated.
All causes	2,753	2,939	2,516	2,211	2,544	2,593	2,378	1,468	356	310	217	27	—
Rate per cent.....	1.758	1.731	1.456	1.254	1.405	—	1.295	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specified causes	2,714	2,908	2,468	2,176	2,518	—	2,350	1,459	349	300	215	27	—
CLASSES.													
I. Zymotic Diseases	731	946	697	486	591	—	605	520	43	23	19	—	—
II. Constitutional Diseases..	318	310	332	274	310	—	291	97	90	74	27	3	—
III. Local Diseases	896	926	813	822	963	—	863	436	147	171	106	3	—
IV. Developmental Diseases	643	590	476	458	516	—	462	345	30	11	55	21	—
V. Violent Deaths	126	136	150	136	138	—	129	61	39	21	8	—	—

Causes of Deaths.

CLASS I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

- Order 1. *Miasmatic Diseases*.—Scarlatina, 22; chicken pox, 1; quinsy, 3; diphtheria, 68; croup, 43; typhoid fever, 57; erysipelas, 12; metria, 1; influenza, 6; dysentery, 172; diarrhoea, 148; cholera, 6; remittent fever, 12; rheumatism, 12.
- Order 2. *Enthetic Diseases*.—Syphilis, 2.
- Order 3. *Dietic Diseases*.—Privation, 1; want of breast milk, 24; purpura and scurvy, 1; delirium tremens, 2; intemperance, 1.
- Order 4. *Parasitic Diseases*.—Thrush, 11.

CLASS II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

- Order 1. *Diathetic Diseases*.—Gout, 1; dropsy, 33; cancer, 33; mortification, 4; other causes, 9.
- Order 2. *Tubercular Diseases*.—Scrofula, 3; psoas abscess, 1; tabes mesenterica, 15; phthisis, 157; hydrocephalus, 35.

CLASS III.—LOCAL DISEASES.

- Order 1. *Diseases of Nervous System*.—Cephalitis, 16; meningitis, 5; apoplexy, 28; paralysis, 34; insanity, 7; epilepsy, 11; chorea, 1; convulsions, 152; brain disease, 81; other causes, 3.
- Order 2. *Diseases of Organs of Circulation*.—Pericarditis, 5; heart disease, 87.
- Order 3. *Diseases of Respiratory Organs*.—Laryngitis, 10; bronchitis, 78; pleurisy, 8; pneumonia, 49; asthma, 12; lung disease, 41; other causes, 9.
- Order 4. *Diseases of Digestive Organs*.—Gastritis, 13; enteritis, 25; peritonitis, 12; ascites, 1; ulceration of intestines, 2; hernia, 5; ileus, 5; intussusception, 1; stomach disease, 19; hepatitis, 14; jaundice, 13; spleen disease, 2; liver disease, 41; other causes, 12.
- Order 5. *Diseases of Urinary Organs*.—Nephritis, 6; nephria, 9; diabetes, 4; stone, 1; cystitis, 5; kidney disease, 9; prostate disease, 1.
- Order 6. *Diseases of Organs of Generation*.—Ovarian dropsy, 1; uterus disease, 5; parametritis, 1.
- Order 7. *Diseases of Organs of Locomotion*.—Arthritis, 1; joint disease, 3; other causes, 4.
- Order 8. *Diseases of Integumentary System*.—Ulcer, 6; skin disease, 4; ecchyma, 1.

CLASS IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.

- Order 1. *Developmental Diseases of Children*.—Premature birth, 28; cyanosis, 1; spina bifida, 3; other malformations, 6; teething, 64.

Order 2. *Developmental Diseases of Adults*.—Childbirth, 20; parametritis, 4; other causes, 4.

Order 3. *Developmental Diseases of Old People*.—Old age, 69.

Order 4. *Diseases of Nutrition*.—Atrophy and debility, 263.

CLASS V.—VIOLENT DEATHS.

1. *Accident or Negligence*.—Fracture and contusion, 42; gunshot, 4; burns and scalds, 14; poison, 4; drowning, 29; suffocation, 4; otherwise, 20.
3. *Homicide*.—Murder, 1.
4. *Suicide*.—Gunshot, 1; cut, stab, 2; poison, 7; drowning, 1.
5. *Execution*.—Hanging, 1.
- Sudden death, cause unascertained, 8.
- Causes not specified, 20.

Births and Deaths Registered in the Districts of the Province.

	Births.	Deaths.		Births.	Deaths.
Adelaide	2,154	1,035	Highercombe	83	15
Port Adelaide	313	106	Port Gawler	159	59
Daly	709	224	Crawford.....	28	2
Willunga	96	27	Barossa	376	84
Yankalilla	115	28	Angaston.....	276	57
Encounter Bay....	140	37	Kapunda.....	277	101
Strathalbyn	307	82	Gilbert	199	39
Robe	146	38	Burra	208	61
Grey	408	82	Clare	222	66
Wellington	16	3	Upper Wakefield	128	27
Morphett Vale	91	27	Flinders	68	9
Mount Barker	77	20	Frome.....	47	16
Nairne	280	88	Palmerston.....	4	2
Talunga	155	43			

Births and Deaths Registered in the City of Adelaide and Suburbs.

	Births.	Deaths.		Births.	Deaths.
Adelaide	665	477	Magill and } Burnside }	52	21
Hindmarsh and } Bowden..... }	158	104	Glen Osmond	49	13
Findon	29	10	Mitcham	50	9
North Adelaide } and Walkerville }	205	107	O'Halloran Hill..	22	10
Campbelltown	17	11	Brighton	16	5
Payneham	44	10	Glenelg	34	17
Norwood and } Kensington .. }	232	60	Sturt	29	11

The births registered in the year ended December 31, 1871, amounted to 7,082 (males, 3,695; females, 3,387), the deaths to 2,378 (males 1,352; females 1,026), and the marriages to 1,250, or 2,500 persons married.

The natural increase, or excess of births over deaths, is 4,704.

The population on 31st December, reckoned from natural increase, excess of emigration over immigration, and the numbers returned in the census of April 2, is estimated at 189,018 (males, 97,090; females, 91,928).

The number of births registered is higher than any in the preceding five years, with the exception of that in 1868, which is 165 in excess. The rate for every thousand of the population is 38.55, and is unusually low. In New South Wales the rate in 1870 is given 39.80; in Queensland for the same year 43.5. The highest rate recorded in the returns for England is 36.35 per 1,000. The like fact of the decrease in the birth-rate is also observable in other Australian Colonies. Thus the Registrar-General of New South Wales, in his fifteenth annual report, says, "The registered births in 1870 were 1.40 per 1,000 below the mean of preceding five years."

In the annual returns for 1866 it was stated that the number of women between the ages of 15 and 45 was 34,084, and the birth-rate, in relation to each hundred of this number, 19.88. In this year the number is calculated at 38,234, and the birth-rate to each hundred of that number, 18.54.

The relations of the numbers of the sexes, as exhibited in births, is, to every hundred girls born there were one hundred and eight boys. In the preceding five years, from 1866 to 1870 inclusive, the relation of boys born to girls is expressed successively by 104, 105, 104, 109, 103. As relative with this the deaths of males and females under every year of age was found to be to every hundred of the latter 122, 110, 116, 122, 106, 129 males. The regular result of the foregoing would be that, at the end of this term of years, the female population would be in excess of the male. And this is so far verified, that if the actual number of births and deaths of both sexes registered, is considered, the females are in excess. It is concluded, therefore, that the tendency of the relation of emigration and immigration has been to produce an eventual total in favor of an excess of males. In all England the actual result, in reference to the proportion of boys and girls born, is that to every 100 girls born 103.6 boys are born, while certain counties, on the other hand, are excepted, where the proportion of boys born to every 100 girls was 108.7, 102.2, 106.7, and 106.0. The fluctuations of this Province are thus not without parallel.

In 1870 the illegitimate births amounted to 156; distributed, 51 to the City of Adelaide, 105 to the districts. In 1871 the numbers amounted to 129, which shows a decrease of 27 on the former year. These are thus distributed; to the District of Adelaide (inclusive of the city, 42), 59; Port Adelaide, 5; Daly, 8; Willunga, 3; Yankalilla, 4; Strathalbyn, 2; Robe, 1; Grey, 8; Wellington, 1; Morphet Vale, 2; Mount Barker, 1; Nairne, 5; Talunga, 6; Highercombe, 1; Port Gawler, 1; Barossa, 4; Angaston, 5; Kapunda, 3; Burra, 2; Clare, 1; Frome, 1.

The deaths registered in this year, 2,378, are few in number compared with those of the immediately preceding five years, being but 167 above the lowest—those of 1869—and as much as 561 under the highest—those of 1867.

Also the death-rate, 1.295, is but slightly in advance of the lowest recorded, 1.254. Referring to 1870, the difference in favor of the present year is 166, which decrease appears in the several ages, under 20 years, 159; 40 and under 60, 18; 60 and under 80, 13; and one under age not stated; counterbalanced, on the other hand, by an increase in the period 20 and under 40 of 20; and in 80 and upwards of 5. This considerable lessening in the first or lowest division of ages sufficiently indicates the healthfulness of the year, as in this climatic influences are most powerful. In the different classes of diseases the same is observable. It is found that in the zymotic the numbers are nearly equalized; in the developmental, that the deaths are less by 54. As a rule the third class, or local diseases, is in sympathy with the others, increasing and decreasing together. Constitutional diseases do not appear to follow closely the same rule, a high number of deaths in the zymotic being often allied with a decrease in the constitutional; or a low number in the first with an increase in the last. In the zymotic the slight difference of 14, registered in 1870, is distributed throughout the higher ages, 519 and 520 being the numbers in the lower. Seventy-seven in every hundred of the whole number registered were under five years; in the preceding year the number was 72. This increase appears in the deaths of children under one year of age, which have been attributable to dysentery. The numerical equality of the sexes in this class is still maintained; under five years, 233 males, 229 females; above five years, 72 males, and 71 females; the total being 305 males and 300 females. In 1870 the numbers were, under five years of age, 216 males and 218 females; above that age, 76 males and 81 females; the respective totals being 292 and 299.

Though the whole numbers registered, 591 and 605, thus closely approximate, the relative numbers in the individual diseases differ considerably. Some of the most important differences are observed in diphtheria, which is reduced from 116 to 68; typhoid fevers, from 98 to 57; diarrhoea, from 154 to 148. The most remarkable, however, is the increase under dysentery, from 56 to 172. The gain of 89 decrease from the diseases diphtheria and typhoid fevers is overbalanced by the increase of 116 in dysentery, which, however, is again counteracted by numerous slight advantages in the other diseases.

Children under two years of age have mostly suffered from dysentery, the severity of which has not been compensated by relaxation in other diseases ordinarily of greater fatality.

Constitutional diseases record 291 against 310 in 1870. The decrease is found in the order tubercular diseases and phthisis. In diathetic diseases deaths from cancer are 10 males and 23 females, which would appear to confirm the statement that "cancer is a disease most fatal to women; the reported deaths from it have increased almost every year since the returns have been made. This, perhaps, is due to the fact that cancers of internal organs, formerly overlooked, are now discovered."

In local diseases it has been observed that deaths from diseases of the nervous system and respiratory organs are, ordinarily, two-thirds more than deaths from diseases of the organs of circulation and of the digestive organs. The number of registrations under the first two diseases was 545; under the last, 257. Climatic influences, which may be altogether wanting in England and other countries, may here have power to lessen injurious effects in at least one of

the above orders, that of the respiratory organs. In diseases of the nervous system 193 deaths were of children under two years of age, 141 of which were from the single disease convulsions.

Developmental diseases, 462, are 54 under those of the preceding year, shown in a decrease in diseases of children, under the individual disease teething. The premature births registered this year as compared with the last were 28 to 42. Deaths from old age are but three less; from atrophy and debility, 19.

Violent deaths have been comparatively few, being the lowest since 1866. Under the order accident or negligence, in 1870 and 1871, the following exactly correspond:—Fracture and contusion, 42; burns and scalds, 14; poison, 4; suffocation, 4. There is an increase of 10 in drowning; suicides are two in excess.

The following table expresses the rate to every hundred of

the population, under the ages specified, in the years 1866 and 1871:—

Ages.	5.	20.	30.	40.	50.	60.	70.	80.	80 and upwards.
1866..	4.57	.46	.89	1.02	1.32	2.0	3.1	7.0	7.0
1871..	4.07	.29	.60	.81	.87	1.7	3.1	5.0	13.0

The foregoing gives results greatly in favor of 1871, so much so as to lead to the supposition that some epidemic had prevailed extensively in 1866. But a reference to the annual returns of that year does not support this conclusion. At that time no deaths were registered from scarlatina, measles, or whooping cough, which occasionally are so fatal, apparently, ameliorating conditions of some kind, probably connected with the seasons, have had an influence, formerly absent, in 1871.

Number of Persons Married, at different ages, in the year 1871.

	15 and under 20.		25.		30.		35.		40.		45.		50.		55.		60.		65.		70.		75.		Full.		Minor.		Un-stated.		Total.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
First Quarter.....	3	86	115	107	99	41	17	15	12	5	9	6	5	5	4	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	25	23	—	1	—	2	294	294	588
Second Quarter.....	3	95	122	128	101	42	36	24	17	7	9	5	10	3	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	23	18	1	4	—	—	328	328	656
Third Quarter.....	9	99	142	127	77	42	29	16	18	15	12	1	4	2	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	24	16	1	4	—	—	353	323	646
Fourth Quarter.....	15	113	121	120	83	32	26	8	19	6	7	8	8	3	5	2	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	18	9	—	2	—	—	305	305	610
Total	30	393	500	482	360	157	108	63	66	33	37	20	27	13	16	5	7	4	2	1	3	—	2	—	90	66	2	11	—	2	1,250	1,250	2,500
Widows and Widowers	—	1	1	7	12	21	21	36	21	23	24	14	21	10	15	5	6	4	2	1	3	—	2	—	12	13	—	—	—	—	140	135	275
Signatures by mark	3	39	40	56	35	27	12	14	7	12	11	6	5	3	3	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	11	—	—	—	—	122	170	292

Marriages Celebrated by Officiating Ministers and Registrars.

Baptist.....	58
Bible Christian	93
Christian Disciples	21
Christian Brethren	2
Church of England	248
Congregational	95
District Registrars	76
Free Church	3
Friends	—
Jews.....	—
Lutheran	82
Methodist New Connexion	7
Moravian.....	2
Mission, Aborigines	3
New Jerusalem Church.....	4
Presbyterian	88
Primitive Methodist	107
Roman Catholic	177
Unitarian.....	6
Wesleyan.....	178

The marriages number 1,250—a decrease of 10 under those of 1870. The decrease appears in the first quarter alone. In 1870, the numbers of the March quarter were the highest. In this year they are the lowest, the difference being 67 in excess in the former. The number of minors married, including those whose ages have been specified between 15 and 20, and those who are simply declared to be “under age,” amounted to 436 of both sexes—32 males and 404 females. In the previous year 447 at this term of life were registered—51 males and 395 females. The change thus indicates a lessening by 19 of those of males under age, an increase of 9 of females, and an advance of 11 in the whole number. The signatures by mark in this division are, in each sex, rated at about ten out of every hundred persons married, showing in this respect no improvement compared with 1870.

The marriages of persons in the next division of age, under 25, very closely, in both sexes, approximate to those in the previous year, being in this, 500 males and 482 females; in that, 508 males and 483 females; the signatures by mark also being 96 and 97 respectively. This period continues to be notable as that in which both men and women most numerous marry. The excess above those under age is 559; above those under 30, the next most numerous, 465.

The numbers under 30 also closely approximate in the last two years, being 514 and 517; the signatures by mark for the former being 68; for the latter, 62.

No remarkable assimilation or difference occurs under the remaining ages recorded in the return.

The youngest spinster married had reached the age of 15; the oldest, that of 50. Of persons between 55 and 60, one is tabled as a bachelor. One hundred and forty widowers and 135 widows have entered upon matrimony during the year. The youngest widow is registered under 20 years of age; the youngest widower, under 25; the oldest widower, under 72; the oldest widow, under 65.

With a difference of 10 only in the aggregate, no great changes can be expected in the marriages celebrated by ministers of the various religious denominations. Such differences as exist are confined to units, and can be of little statistical value. The denominations which have exceeded 100 marriages celebrated are—Church of England, 248; Wesleyan, 178; Catholic, 177; Primitive Methodist, 107; in which the Church of England and Primitive Methodist appear slightly in excess of 1870. The civil marriages, 77, number two less. Twenty-eight of these have been celebrated in the country districts; fifty-one in the office of the District Registrar, of Adelaide.

In 1870, the searches numbered 95; certified copies, 229. In 1871, searches, 95; certified copies, 233.

Births and Deaths Registered in the City of Adelaide.

Months.	Births.	Deaths.						
		Total.	Zymotic Diseases.	Constitutional.	Local.	Developmental.	Violent Deaths.	Not stated.
January..	56	53	8	5	24	14	2	—
February.	53	33	9	4	11	9	—	—
March ..	54	49	13	8	17	8	2	1
April	56	56	19	6	22	8	1	—
May	62	24	5	6	9	4	—	—
June	55	29	3	5	16	5	—	—
July	59	44	5	8	25	2	3	1
August ..	60	25	5	5	12	2	—	1
September	52	34	6	8	14	4	2	—
October..	64	38	2	12	17	5	1	1
November	56	52	10	8	26	3	3	2
December	38	40	7	7	17	7	2	—
Total..	665	477	92	82	210	71	16	6

The registered births number 665, the deaths 447. The relation is thus expressed—to every 100 births the deaths were .72; or the deaths were slightly below three-fourths the number of births. Ordinarily the relation of deaths to births is as .3 to 1.

The population of the city of Adelaide, according to the census of April 2, was 27,208. The birth-rate to every hundred of this number is 2.46, the death 1.76. These rates, compared with that of the whole number of births registered in the province are about 1.40 deficient—with that of the whole number of deaths, .46 in excess, or nearly one-half per cent.

The population of the districts, exclusive of the city, is 52,418; the births are 6,417, the deaths 1,901. In relation

to these numbers, the birth-rate is 4.06, the death-rate 1.21. Thus the birth-rate of the districts is raised .21, the death-rate diminished .8.

The numbers of births and deaths registered in Adelaide, in their mutual relations, apparently arise, not from any excessive mortality, compared with other cities and districts, but from a deficiency in the birth-registrations.

The relation of numbers in the classes, in the registered deaths, is as follows:—

Class.	Province.	City.
Zymotic	26	19
Constitutional	13	17
Local	36	43
Developmental	20	15
Violent Deaths	5	6

Thus the registrations of the city compare favorably with those of the whole province.

The class registrations in the districts, in relation to each hundred of the whole number of deaths registered, exclusive of those of the city, are thus generally stated:—

Zymotic	27
Constitutional	11
Local	35
Developmental	21
Violent Deaths	6

Thus, in the city, deaths from zymotic diseases rate proportionately 7 per cent. less of the whole number registered; from developmental diseases, 6. On the other hand, in constitutional diseases, the proportion of deaths is 6 higher, and in local 8.

The highest registrations appear in January (53), March (49), and November (52), the lowest in May (24), June (29), August (25).

The first and last quarters number respectively 135 and 131, the second and third 109 and 103.

JOHN F. CLELAND, Registrar-General.